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1. 8.4: Air, Water and Soils

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The Air, Water and Soils topic area aims to develop technologies for conserving and protecting air, water and soil resources while sustaining optimal farm and forest productivity.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

2. 8.5: Food Science and Nutrition

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The Food Science and Nutrition topic area aims to fund projects that support research focusing on developing new and improved processes, technologies, or services that address emerging food safety issues. The program will fund projects that develop novel rapid detection methods for food-borne pathogens and toxic metabolites to reduce food contamination and food-borne illnesses.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

3. 8.6: Rural Development

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

During the last 30 years, dramatic social, economic and technological changes have occurred in many rural areas in the United States. Although farming continues to be an important source of income, most of rural America is moving from an agrarian to post-agrarian economy. The results of this transformation have been uneven across the rural landscape. Some communities are facing economic decline and rural exodus, while in other communities, especially those in areas near large urban centers or rich in natural amenities, economic and population growth have accelerated.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

4. 8.7: Aquaculture

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The Aquaculture topic area aims to develop new technologies that will enhance the knowledge and technology base necessary for the continued growth of the domestic aquaculture industry as a form of production agriculture.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

5. 8.8: Biofuels and Biobased Products

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The objective of this topic area is to promote the use of biofuels and non-food biobased products by developing new or improved technologies that will lead to increased production of industrial products from agricultural materials. This research will lead to new opportunities to diversify agriculture and enhance agriculture's role as a reliable supplier of raw materials to industry. This topic area supports the NIFA Sustainable Bioenergy Societal Challenge Area and the Climate Change Societal Challenge Area.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

[6. 8.12: Small and Mid-Size Farms](#)

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The Small and Mid-Size Farms topic area aims to promote and improve the sustainability and profitability of small and mid-size farms and ranches (where annual sales of agricultural products are less than \$250,000 for small farms and \$500,000 for mid-size farms - hereafter referred to as small farms). The vast majority of farms in this country are small and they play an important role in the agricultural sector. The viability and sustainability of small farms is important to the Nation's economy and to the stewardship of our biological and natural resources.

SBIR Department of Agriculture

[7. 8.13: Plant Production and Protection- Engineering](#)

Release Date: 07-13-2011Open Date: 07-13-2011Due Date: 09-01-2011Close Date: 09-01-2011

The objective of this topic area is to examine means of enhance crop production by reducing the impact of harmful agents and developing effective crop production systems that are economically and environmentally sound. Projects that promote energy conservation or efficiency are strongly encouraged. Examples of appropriate subtopics for research applications from small businesses include, but are not limited to the following:

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